## SENATE DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS

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## DEMS ANNOUNCE PACKAGE TO STOP OUTSOURCING

Bills call for outsourcing accountability and transparency to protect jobs

LANSING—State Senate Democrats today continued their push to fight outsourcing and protect Michigan jobs. The legislative package announced today would hold corporations accountable for job creation promises attached to tax incentives, require transparency for outsourcing, and promote Michigan workers and products.

"Our country continues to struggle under the weight of what is being called the greatest out migration of jobs in our nation's history," said Senate Democratic Leader Robert Emerson (D-Flint). "Senate Democrats have a plan to help those in Michigan who have worked hard and played by the rules but are struggling because of Washington's negligent policies."

The Senate Democrats launched their package, "Solve The Outsourcing Problem-STOP Rewarding Outsourcers." Details of the package include:

- Outsourcing Accountability: All companies bidding for state contracts must fill out a standard form describing any part of a contract that will be performed outside of the United States and outside of Michigan.
- <u>Outsourcing Transparency</u>: Create a web site within the Department of Labor and Economic Development on which all outsourcing done by corporations is listed.
- <u>Loyalty Incentives</u>: Require the state to retrieve any tax credits or grants to companies that move Michigan jobs overseas and do not have a continued commitment to Michigan communities and workers.
- MI First Contracting & Outsourcing Reduction: Prohibit the state from outsourcing any work that can be done by Michigan workers.
- <u>Fair Notice</u>: Require employers to provide notice 60 days in advance of plant closings and mass layoffs.
- <u>Fair Treatment:</u> Any company contracting with the state that is seeking wage concessions from its employees must do so in an equitable manner.

"The pain is real and it is being felt in every corner of our state," said Senate Democratic Floor Leader Mark Schauer (D-Battle Creek). "These proposals will protect workers and reward companies that are loyal to Michigan, instead of those that take our incentives and then move jobs overseas."

While outsourcing is affecting every state, Michigan's economy has been uniquely impacted by trade policies that have allowed our good-paying jobs to flow overseas. Last month, Senate Democrats introduced a package to ensure workers who lost their jobs because of outsourcing are able to meet their short-term financial obligations and continue to support their families while they look for a new job. The package introduced today addresses the root causes of the outsourcing and provides the state with tools to prevent the problem.

"Governor Granholm is doing her part to convince Congress and President Bush to address this problem, while she moves forward on her plan to protect manufacturing jobs and diversify our economy," said Schauer. "This legislation will force disclosure of outsourcing practices and prevent companies from taking the money and running."

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